

FAIRFIELD
Betterton, Maryland
(ca 1875-80)

K-448

Fairfield is included on this survey because it has a house and several outbuildings which are well-preserved examples of late 19th century farm structures in Kent County. The layout of the farm buildings, arranged in a court yard behind and to one side of the main house, is one of the two farm plans common to Kent County.* As in most farms, smoke houses, well houses and other outbuildings related to the kitchen are located in the rear yard of the house.

The house is a 2½ story central gable building of frame construction. Five bays wide, it has a three bay front porch and a four bay, two story rear ell with a shallow gable roof. The central entry leads to the formal stair hall and a secondary entry and a lattice porch on the north wall of the wing leads to a service stair. Brick chimneys with large bases and corbelled caps protrude from the ridge of the main house, rising against the interior stair hall walls.

* The other has no court yard, but buildings set in one or two rows behind the house.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

ROSEBERRY'S FANCY, HOWELL'S FARM, SKEGGS JOINTURE, LYNNS FARM

AND/OR COMMON

Fairfield (preferred)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

West side of Route 292

1st

CITY, TOWN

Betterton

XX VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Kent

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mrs. James Todd Pine

Telephone #: 301-348-5048

STREET & NUMBER

Fairfield

CITY, TOWN

Betterton

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Kent County Court House

Liber #: RAS 34

Folio #: 549

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown, Maryland

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

K-448

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED
☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Fairfield farm is located on Route 292 about two miles from Betterton. The house is on the east side of the road facing west. Between the road and house is a generous lawn planted with ornamental trees and shrubs. The farm buildings are situated in an L north and east of the main house.

The house is a 2½ story central gable building of frame construction. Five bays wide, it has a three bay front porch and a four bay, two story rear ell with a shallow gable roof. The central entry leads to the formal stair hall and a secondary entry and a lattice porch on the north wall of the wing leads to a service stair. Brick chimneys with large bases and corbelled caps protrude from the ridge of the main house, rising against the interior stair hall walls.

Local tradition holds that the wing predates the main house. If that is true, no early features are visible. The stair, trim, windows and doors, and chimney all appear to date from the late 19th or 20th centuries. Exterior detailing of the wing is simpler than that on the main house and many windows have been changed.

The cornice of the main house is ornamented with bracketts set in a deep frieze and continues up the central gable which is just over two bays wide. Two gable dormers with 6 over 6 sash and overhanging eaves, pilastered faces and an applied wooden triangle in the pediment are situated above the two outer window bays. Other windows in the facade have 2 over 2 sash set in plain trim with a cyma reversa backband and louvered shutters. There are little pointed windows in the attic gables.

The front porch has a cornice which is similiar to that on the house roof but smaller in scale. Its flat roof is held up by 4 square posts. The main entry has a transom and side light assembly typical of other houses of this period. The door has been replaced by a glass "French" door.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

K-448

| PERIOD | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> ART | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | |

SPECIFIC DATES ca 1875-80

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Fairfield is included on this survey because it has a house and several outbuildings which are well-preserved examples of late 19th century farm structures in Kent County. The layout of the farm buildings, arranged in a court yard behind and to one side of the main house, is one of the two farm plans common to Kent County.* As in most farms, smoke houses, well houses and other outbuildings related to the kitchen are located in the rear yard of the house.

The house was probably constructed by George Gray, who owned the property from 1875 to 1879, or by the next owner, Eugene Bonwill. The farm remained in the Bonwill family until 1941. During its ownership by the Pine family, the farm was know for its fine herd of angus cattle. They renamed the farm for their home county Fairfield in Connecticut.

* The other has no court yard, but buildings set in one or two rows behind the house.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

K-448

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marsha L. Fritz, Survey Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Kent County Planning Commission

DATE

778-4600, ext.67

STREET & NUMBER

Court House

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Chestertown, Maryland

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

The building is covered with aluminum siding finished against paneled pilasters. The body of the house is painted white with white trim and green shutters. The roof is covered with asphalt and the foundation is stone.

The formal stair is the most interesting interior architectural feature. It has a walnut newel post with an octagonal shaft and similiarly detailed oak balusters. An open string stair, the step bracketts are a foliated design. Interior window and door trim is flat with a bended inside bead and a fillet and flat Greek ogee and bevel backband. Most doors are Victoria four panel, but the mantles have been changed. Flooring used is 4" to 6" wide random yellow pine. The rear stair is L-shaped and has a round handrail.

In the yard southeast of the house is a smoke house with a wooden shingle roof which has a wide overhang and is surmounted by a louvered capula. The walls are covered with lapped siding and the entry door has four panels.

In addition most 19th century barns remain on the property. Laid out in an L which forms a court or farm yard of the house are a two story timber-framed granary with ~~slatted~~ side bins and a central entry. Like most granarys of the late 19th century, this building has a mortice-and-tenoned frame and plank flooring. The central thrashing floor is raised several inches above grade and the roof is a shallow gable. Other buildings include a long double pitch machine shed, a barn, and a stable. All are frame.

Chain of Title

FAIRFIELD
Betterton, Maryland

K-448

Land Records of
Kent County

Transaction

RAS 34
549

TO: Mr. & Mrs. James Todd Pine
FROM: Edward A. & Virginia Fitzgerald
DATE: September 19, 1944

147 acres +
_

RAS 27
246

TO: Edward A. & Virginia Fitzgerald
FROM: William H. & Mary M. Bonwill
DATE: August 5, 1941

RAS 13 RAS 12
238 508

TO: William H. & Mary M. Bonwill
FROM: Third National Bank of Chestertown
DATE: September 5, 1934

RRA 2
287

TO: William Bonwill
FROM: Eugene M. Bonwill
DATE: August 25, 1923

DCB 5
30

TO: Eugene M. & Hylinda Bonwill
FROM: George C. Gray, et al
DATE: March 15, 1879

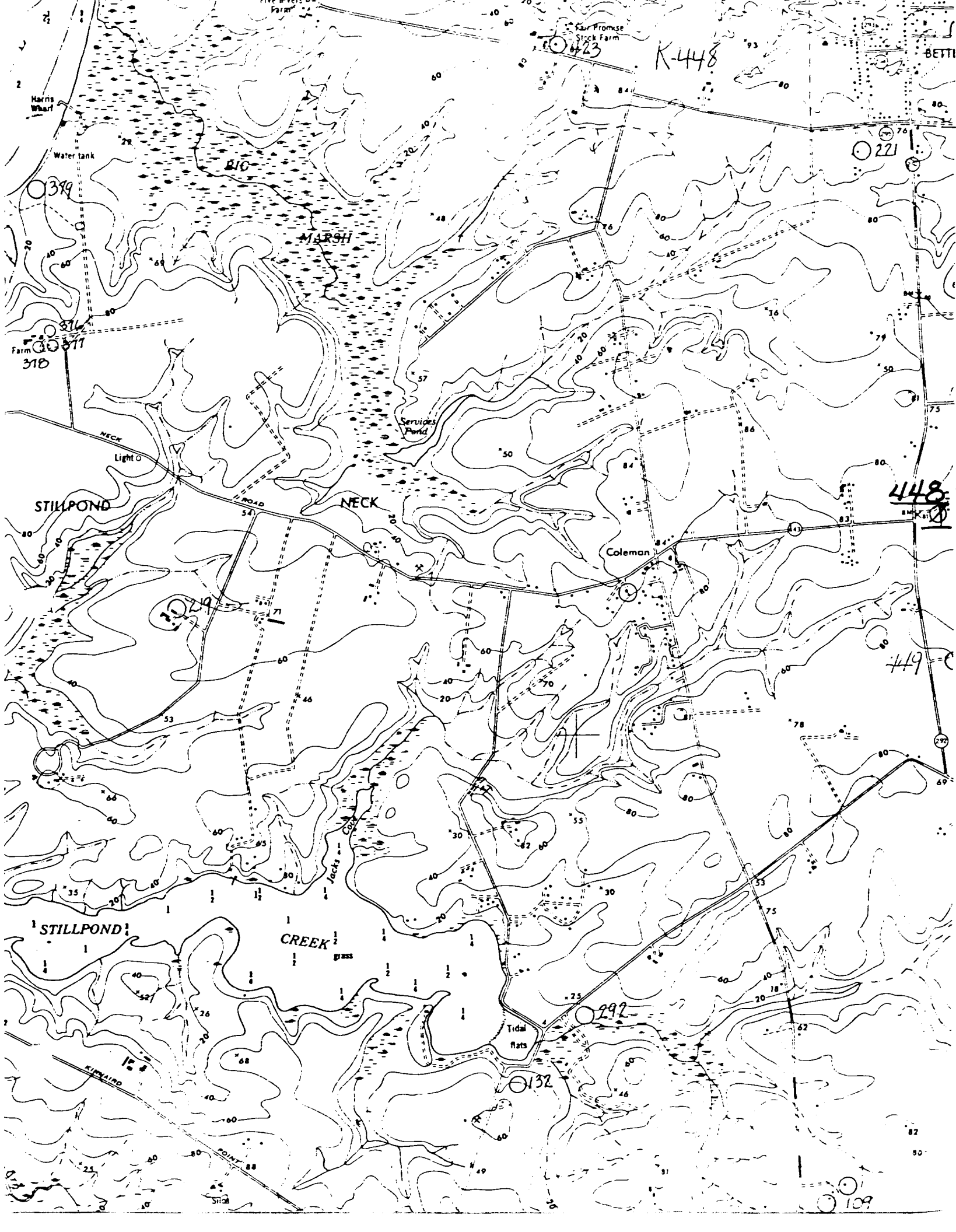
DCB 2
34

TO: George C. Gray, et al
FROM: James A. Roseberry
DATE: September 11, 1875

Renamed the property Roseberry's Fancy.

JKH 1
696

TO: James A. Roseberry
FROM: J.C. M. Brooks
DATE: December 19, 1859





K-448
Fairfield
View to East
Betterton
Kent County
M.L. Fritz
9/1980

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J. Tyler Campbell
CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND
SEP 25 1980



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Fairfield Smokehouse

M.L. Fritz

9/1980

PRINTED BY

J. Tyler Campbell

CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND

SEP 25 1980